[28th January 1931

Report of the Director of Public Instruction on the recommendations of the Hartog Committee.

* 133 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what report the Director of Public Instruction has made to the Government in regard to the recommendations contained in the Hartog Committee's report; and

(b) what action is proposed to be taken in this matter?

A.—(a) & (b) The remarks of the Director of Public Instruction are under the consideration of Government. The question of publishing his remarks will be considered when final orders are passed.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the hon. Minister give an opportunity to this House to consider the views or the recommendations of the Director of Public Instruction before final orders are passed thereon by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot give any undertaking at present; but I shall keep this in mind when the final orders are passed."

Medical inspection of schools and colleges.

* 134 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme of medical inspection on improved lines of their schools and colleges; and

(b) if so, how it differs from the present system and in which districts it is proposed to be tried?

A.—(a) & (b) Proposals for a scheme of medical inspection on improved lines called for from the Director of Public Instruction are awaited.

Excise.

Alleged bidding by village officers at excise auction sales in South Kanara.

* 135 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the village officers in the district of South Kanara or in any taluk of South Kanara had been ordered by the Tahsildars or Revenue Divisional Officers by regular orders or takids to bid at the recent excise auction sale held in South Kanara;

(b) if so, under whose orders the said orders or takids were issued, and who issued the orders or takids and under what powers they were issued;

(c) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter; and

(d) how many of the successful bidders at the recent excise auction sales are village officers in each of the taluks of South Kanara?

A.—(a) to (c) The answer is in the negative.

(d) None.

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Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—"May I know from the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise whether the answer to this question is based on information got from the district or on some information already in the Secretariat ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"The answer is based on the information which we got from the district officer."

Compensation to losses incurred by toddy contractors.

*136 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have given any undertaking that in respect of losses incurred by contractors of toddy shops on account of picketing the Government would compensate the contractors ;

(*b*) whether several Revenue Divisional Officers at the time of the auction of toddy shops undertook to pay such compensation ;

(*c*) what is the extent of compensation which they have agreed to pay ;

(*d*) why the Government have considered it necessary to compensate the toddy contractors against loss due to picketing ;

(*e*) whether they have taken any legal opinion that they would be liable to pay such compensation and if not, why not ; and

(*f*) whether the Government have been still continuing the temperance propaganda and how the Government propose to distinguish between cases where the loss was due to their own propaganda or to the picketing by volunteers ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government authorized Collectors of districts to announce at the time of the auction sales of toddy shops for the lease of 1930–31 that applications from renters for remission of rentals on account of any serious loss sustained by them owing to causes over which the renters had no control would be considered sympathetically. The Government empowered the Commissioner of Excise to grant remissions to the renters of arrack and toddy shops in case their sales were affected by the civil disobedience movement.

(*c*) The amount of remission will depend on the merits of each case.

(*d*) The Government considered that it was equitable that abkari renters should be granted remission of rentals if they suffered loss owing to causes beyond their control.

(*e*) No. There was no need to take legal opinion in the matter.

(*f*) Yes The question whether any particular loss is due to the temperance propaganda or to picketing will be investigated by the local officers.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government have authorized the Collectors *suo motu* to make the announcement mentioned in clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of the answer, or was it done at the instance of the Collectors ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"It was done at the instance of the Commissioner, Sir."